

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 078586
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 ORM-02 DHA-02 /020 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:WNHOWELL:LF
APPROVED BY NEA/ARN:MDRAPER
OFDA:GBEAUCHAMP (DRAFT)
AID/NE:BRICHARDSON (DRAFT)
AID/NE:AWHITE (DRAFT)
NEA/RA:JCHEEK (DRAFT)

-----080108Z 112506 /66

O 080027Z APR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 078586

FOR AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, LE, US, UNRWA

SUBJECT: TENTS FOR PEOPLE IN DAMOUR

REF: A) BEIRUT 1515; B) STATE 75243

1. OUR OFFER (REFTEL B) TO SELL 500 TENTS TO GOL (OR UN)
WAS INTENDED AS RESPONSE TO RIZK'S EXPRESSION OF URGENCY
IN ACQUIRING THEM FOR RESETTLEMENT OF NON-LEBANESE
REFUGEES NOW LOCATED DAMOUR. THIS QUANTITY, TAKEN WITH
ADDITIONAL 500 BEING OBTAINED FROM INDIA, APPEARS MEET
GOL'S IMMEDIATE, PRESSING REQUIREMENT AND SHOULD, IN OUR
VIEW, PROVIDE SUFFICIENT LEAD TIME FOR GOL AND OTHER
INTERESTED AGENCIES, SUCH AS UNRWA, TO PURSUE MORE ROUTINE
PROCUREMENT POLICY IN OBTAINING NECESSARY FOLLOW ON
SUPPLIES.

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2. YOU MAY TELL RIZK, THEREFORE, THAT WE WILL SELL 500
TENTS FROM STOCKPILES IN ITALY FOR USE OF DISPLACED
PALESTINIANS. THESE TENTS CAN BE FURNISHED UPON DEPOSIT
WITH EMBASSY OF DOLS. 187,500 PLUS TRANSPORT COSTS LIVORNO/
BEIRUT (IF U.S. IS TO PROVIDE TRANSPORT). YOU MAY ALSO
INFORM HIM THAT AID/STATE LEBANON TASK FORCE HAS ALSO

APPROVED 500 TENTS FROM SAME SOURCE FOR USE BY GOL IN

MOVING LEBANESE REFUGEES BACK TO THEIR HOME VILLAGES
PENDING REPAIR OR RECONSTRUCTION OF PERMANENT DWELLINGS.
LATTER 500 TENTS AND TRANSPORT WILL BE FINANCED BY
REIMBURSING AID/OFDA FROM PORTION OF REMAINING FUNDS
(I.E., DOLS. 1.5 MILLION) IN DOLS. 50 MILLION USG
ASSISTANCE PACKAGE FOR LEBANON. RIZK SHOULD UNDERSTAND
THAT WE CANNOT FURTHER REDUCE STOCKPILE IN ITALY WHICH
SERVES REGIONAL EMERGENCY NEEDS.

3. IT IS DIFFICULT FOR US TO ANSWER RIZK'S QUERIES RE
DELIVERY TIME AND SHIPPING COSTS PRECISELY UNTIL WE BEGIN
NEGOTIATIONS WITH CARRIERS ONCE CARGO IS FIRMLY COMMITTED.
MODE OF TRANSPORT ALSO DEPENDS UPON GOL DESIRES. PRICE
OF DOLS. 187,500 IS COST OF 500 TENTS FOB CAMP DARBY,
LIVORNO AND DOES NOT RPT NOT INCLUDING PACKING/LOADING
FOR OCEAN SHIPPING OR INLAND FREIGHT. TENTS CAN BE TRANS-
PORTED BY AIR WITHOUT FURTHER PACKING. BEST AIR CHARTER
ESTIMATE HERE, BASED ON PREVIOUS ITALY/BEIRUT FLIGHTS, IS
ROUGHLY DOLS. 28,000. AIR DELIVERY COULD BE ARRANGED IN
3-5 DAYS (POSSIBLY LESS); GOL IS IN ADVANTAGEOUS POSITION
TO DETERMINE APPROXIMATE DELIVERY TIME AND ARRANGE FOR
SEA SHIPMENT BECAUSE OF ITS FAMILIARITY WITH SHIPPING
LINES SERVING BEIRUT. EITHER U.S. OR GOL COULD ARRANGE
AIR FREIGHT, AS GOL DESIRES.

4. EACH TENT WEIGHS 80 LBS AND HAS A BULK OF 5.29 CUBIC
FEET (CARTON MEASURES 86 1/2 X 6 1/4 X 10 INCHES). EACH
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TENT FLY WEIGHS 31 1/2 LBS. AND HAS VOLUME OF 1.43 INCHES
CUBIC FEET (CARTON MEASURES 45 1/2 X 7 1/2 X 7 1/4 INCHES).

5. FYI. BOTH HOUSES OF CONGRESS HAVE APPROVED LEGISLA-
TION PROVIDING FY 1977 SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF DOLS.
28 MILLION FOR UNRWA AND FUNDS SHOULD BE AVAILABLE IN NEAR
FUTURE. UNRWA HAS ALREADY BEEN ADVISED INFORMALLY OF THIS
DEVELOPMENT. UNRWA SHOULD BE IN FINANCIAL POSITION TO
PARTICIPATE IN FUNDING RELOCATION OF DISPLACED PALESTINIAN
REFUGEES. DURING CONGRESSIONAL CONSIDERATION, SITUATION
IN LEBANON AND UNRWA'S EXTRAORDINARY NEEDS THERE AS
RESULT OF RECENT CONFLICT WERE CITED AS PARTIAL JUSTIFICA-
TION FOR THIS SUPPLEMENTAL WHICH PROVIDES HELP WITH
AGENCY'S ANTICIPATED CALENDAR YEAR 1977 DEFICIT. EXAMPLE OF
DAMOUR WAS SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED. WE WOULD, THEREFORE,
APPRECIATE YOUR REPORTING ON MEASURES UNDERTAKEN BY UNRWA
IN THIS REGARD. UNRWA'S RECORD IN HANDLING THE SITUATION
OF PALESTINIANS IN LEBANON COULD HAVE IMPORTANT BEARING
ON CONGRESSIONAL RECEPTIVENESS TO FUTURE CONTRIBUTIONS

TO AGENCY. END FYI.
VANCE

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